

POLICE CHIEF GLEASON IS PLAYING BOSSES' GAME IN GIRLS' STRIKE

Chief of Police Gleason is playing the employers' end in the waitresses' strike now on, and did the same thing when he was a police captain fighting women of the glove workers' union, according to Agnes Nestor. She is president of the Women's Trade Union League and the International Glove Workers' Union, and testified before the federal industrial relations commission yesterday.

"I saw a picket arrested yesterday," she said. "We passed her as she was walking up and down the sidewalk. There was no other person near her. She was not talking to anybody nor making any motions of any sort.

"A patrol wagon swung around the corner. Two uniformed policemen got out. They took the picket and hustled her into the wagon.

"Hundreds of just such arrests have been made during the Knab and Henrici strikes this year. The plan is to get us into court, eat up our funds and break the spirit of the girls. It only makes the girls all the more determined.

"All along the police have made these alleged arrests without warrant. The chief of police must be to blame. He must understand what he is doing. Every case that has come to a jury trial the girls have been acquitted."

Miss Nestor told of a glove workers' strike in Gleason's district when he was captain:

"Capt. Gleason ordered our pickets off the street, saying they blocked traffic. At the public meetings our union held he sent an array of uniformed men as though we girls were desperate criminals that had to be watched closely. Plain-clothes men asked questions and created excitement as though they wanted to stir up violence. The municipal judge in that district was fair and we believe we got our lawful rights from him."

Chairman Walsh asked: "Are certain police officials believed to be especially against organized labor?" Miss Nestor answered: "Yea."

Q. Have they progressed in the police department? A. That I couldn't say. I put blame on the head of the department. They all get their orders from higher up.

Q. What was the amount of bail furnished by waitresses in the Henrici strike? A. It ran above \$100,000.

Frederick Delano, president Washash Railroad, questioned. Q. One of two things is going to happen in the nation. Either the government must exercise more supervision over large industrial enterprises or else the government is going to own them. Which of these two do you believe in? A. I believe in the public ownership of all public utilities.

Q. Only of public utilities? A. Well, some others.

Grace Abbot, director Immigrants' Protective League, advocated a national labor exchange to connect newcomers with jobs and end the private employment agency graft. A minimum wage law is needed to protect foreign women workers. They cannot bargain for wages and don't know how much they're getting sometimes because they can't speak English.

John G. Shedd, president Marshall Field & Co., favored less agitation, no more legislation, more loyalty from employes to employers, no old age pensions, mature consideration of a minimum wage, and thrift instead of extravagance in booze and tobacco.

John D. Hibbard, commissioner National Metal Trades Council, went on record for the absolute open shop, saying anything else means wreck, ruin, disaster and havoc for the investor and employer.

George M. Reynolds, president Continental & Commercial Bank, said